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Down Under at BARWIDGEE

by Douglas E. Long



In this study you will
be able to find out how
the people of Barwidgee
use modern methods
to make a better living.

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Greg Meets the Kellys

Melbourne, Australia.
September, 1966.

Dear Gregory:

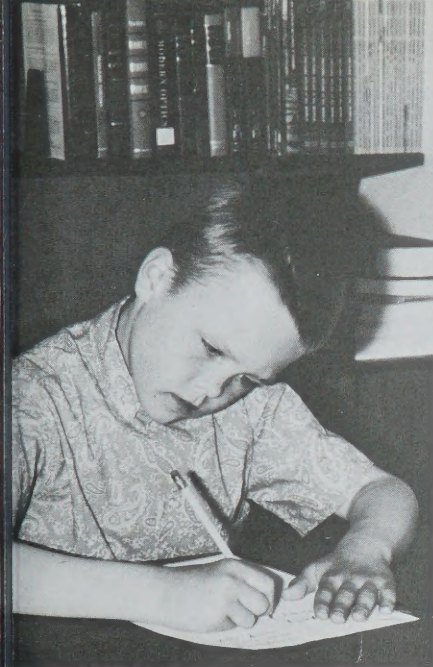
I received your letter this afternoon and enjoyed meeting your family in the pictures you sent. Here are some photographs of me and my children. At present I am at the Melbourne Horse Show. My wife and I ride horses in the Olympic Jumping Events.

Barwidgee, our station—ranch, as you would call it—is near the town of Caramut about 150 miles west of Melbourne. There is a small creek running through the property. Many years ago the station was named “Barwidgee,” which is the native word for “Mossy Banks.” We have 7000 acres of land, and usually keep about 16,000 sheep, 1500 cattle, and 40 horses.

When I get home, the children and I will answer more of your questions.

Yours sincerely,

Colin R. Kelly.



①

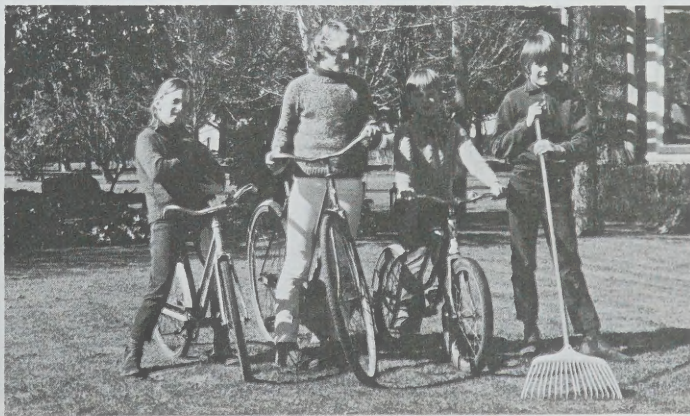
Greg writes a letter

1966



②

Anne, Susan, David, and Lisa



③

1969

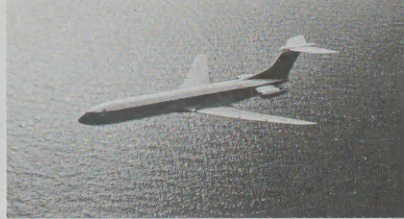


④

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From Vancouver 15 days



From Vancouver 18 hours



DISCUSS:

- Different answers to the question, "Where is Barwidgee?"
- What Greg is finding out about his town (Ancaster, Ontario) and Barwidgee.
- Ways of getting from your town to Barwidgee, including one through London, England.

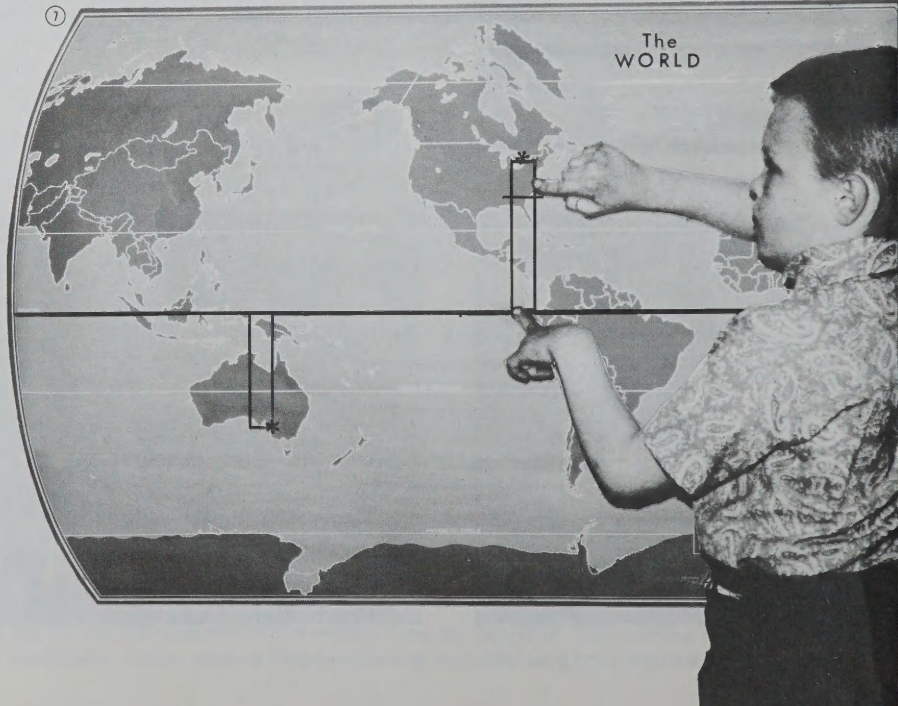
an tip o des (an tip'ə dēz'), a place on the opposite side of the earth.

down under, the region of Australia, New Zealand, etc.

e qua tor (i kwā'tər), an imaginary circle around the middle of the earth, halfway between the North Pole and the South Pole: *Canada is north of the equator.*

hem i sphere (hem'ə sfēr'), 1. half of a sphere or globe. 2. half of the earth's surface: *All the countries north of the equator are in the Northern Hemisphere.*

Where is Barwidgee?





Here is Barwidgee

COLIN KELLY HOUSE

NORTH SHEPARD'S

CHURCH

POST OFFICE

SCHOOL

How Big is Barwidgee?

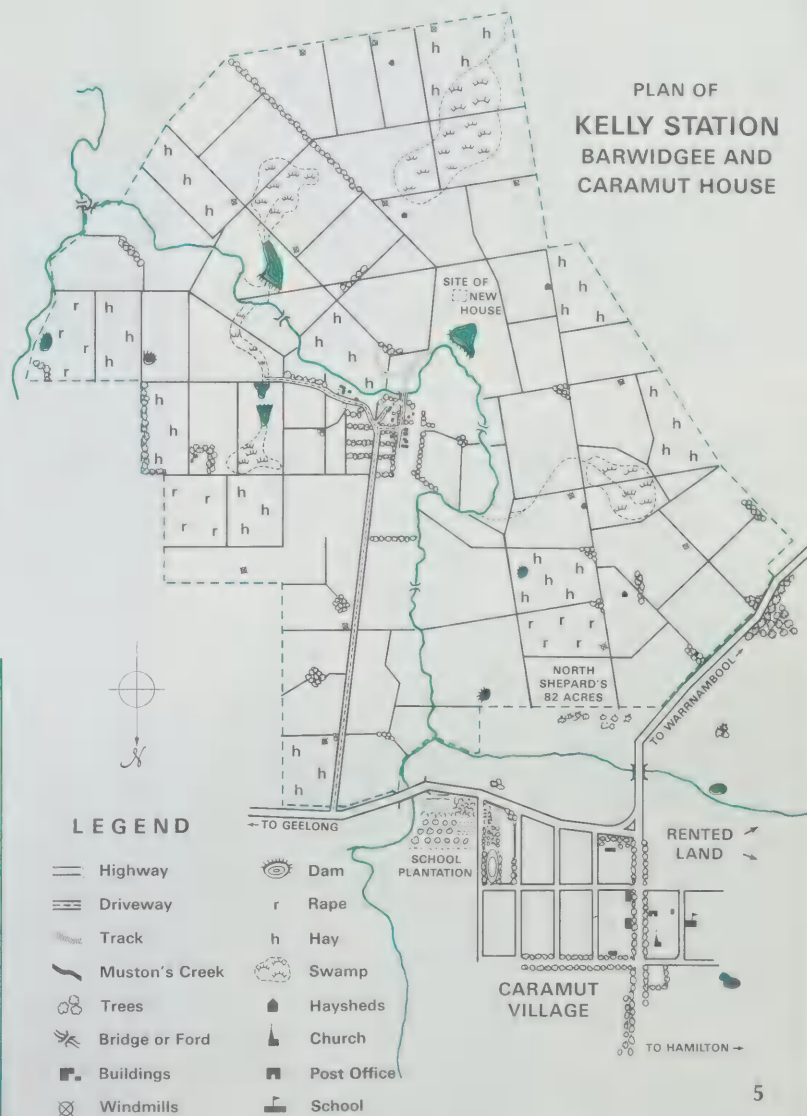
"Even though we have 7000 acres, it is not the best land for growing crops. The soil is poor, and we sometimes do not get any rain for long periods of time. When my father bought the property in 1908, he decided to raise cattle and sheep instead of trying to grow a special crop. Right away he began planning how to improve the land and conserve water. If this could be done, we could then grow more grass, feed more and more animals, and make a better living.

Now the grass on Barwidgee is in good condition, and the fields, or paddocks as we call them, help us keep it that way. The stockmen move the cattle from one paddock to another before the grass is eaten short.

The paddocks are about 80 to 120 acres, and each has a special name. If I told Susan that the calves were in Triangle Paddock, she would know exactly where to go.

The dams you see on the map on this page and in the pictures on pages 3 and 6, are part of our plan to conserve water."

C. R. Kelly.



THINGS TO DO

- Study the legend on the map on this page. How many of the map symbols are new to you?
- Count the paddocks. How many are planted in hay? How are the fences shown on the map? Why is it a good idea to give each paddock a name? Why have the hay sheds been built way out in the paddocks?
- Find the places where animals can get water.
- Study the oblique aerial photograph on page 4. Find on the photograph, and on the map, things to match the symbols in the map legend. (The Colin Kelly house, the church, the school, and the Post Office have been marked for you on the photograph.)
- Find the paddock named "North Shepard's" on the map and in the picture. How big is it?
- How could you find out how big an acre is?

Conserving Water

"Garden and sewage water come from two dams about half a mile away. Picture 10 shows the pump house and one of the dams. This dam when full covers the bottom part of the pump house. Picture 11 is an aerial photograph showing both dams with the pump house taking water through the bank of the upper dam."

Andrew Edgley

"The country is green from about March to December, and so dry from December to March that the creek stops running for two or three months and there is danger of bush and grass fires."

Colin Kelly



10

bore, in Australia, a hole drilled deep into the earth and rock to find a well of water for livestock.

drought (drou't), 1. a long period of dry weather; continued lack of rain. 2. a lack of moisture; dryness.

"Picture 12 shows a windmill and tank, with a stockman on the tower inspecting the cut-off gear. Note: (a) the barb wire down the centre of the trough to stop the stock getting into the water; (b) size of man 6 feet, diameter of fan 10 feet; (c) two pipes leading from the tower to the tank. One takes the water from the bore to the tank. The other pipe is connected to a float which stops the mill when the water in the tank reaches a certain level; (d) outlet from the tank to the trough. All bores on the property are

drilled to 75 feet, with the water rising to within 15 feet of the surface. The water is of good quality, but is too salty for human use. All drinking water is obtained from roof area catchments. This rain water is used for cooking, drinking, bathing, and washing. Picture 13 shows a house storage tank (10,000 gallons), the pump, and head tank to supply pressure. Also shown is a feed line from the roof to the storage tank."

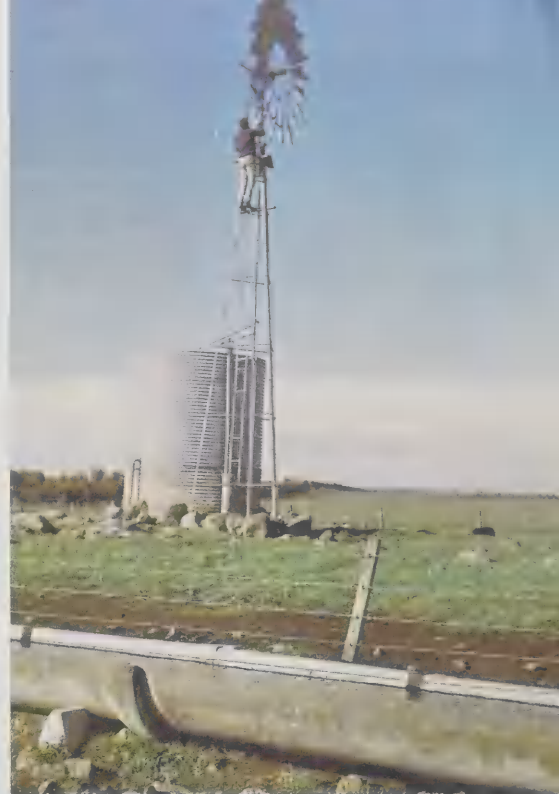
Andrew Edgley

THINGS TO DO

- Find the pump house in both pictures 10 and 11. What kind of power is used to operate this pump?
- Find clumps of trees in the pictures and maps in this book. Most of them were planted. Why?
- Find elsewhere in this book pictures of things represented by symbols in the map legend on page 5. (The pictures of the two dams on page 6 and the picture of the Post Office on page 26 are two examples.)
- Make a sketch of a roof area catchment, and label it to show how a catchment works.

DISCUSS:

- Why Barwidgee needs a lot of water.
- Three kinds of water used, what each is for, and why.
- Which months are hot and dry at Barwidgee.
- When you think the children will have their summer holidays.
- How you think the water from the two dams in picture 11 reaches the yard and gardens shown in the map of the yard on page 25—ditch? underground pipes? tank truck?
- Water supplies on Canadian farms.
- Ranching in Alberta, where some of the problems are the same.



(12)



(13)



14

Improving the Land

"In the poor-soil plains of western Victoria, the pasture lands have been much improved."

The Wool Industry

"Pasture improvement at Barwidgee was started by my father. He began spreading superphosphate fertilizer and sowing rye grass and clover."

C. R. Kelly

"We do use aircraft a great deal on Barwidgee to spread fertilizers on the land and spray to kill weeds and insects."

Andrew Edgley

15



"At 1 p.m. two of us took a tractor to clear stones at the Ram Ford Paddock."

James Hay

DISCUSS

- How the soil of your garden and lawn is improved, and how weeds and insects are killed.
- Why you don't have an airplane do it, and why Mr. Kelly does.
- Why they have to remove the stones from cultivated land, and what they could use them for. (See pictures 10 and 11 on page 6 and picture 42 on page 18.)

Improving the Herd

"The spring feed lasts well into the summer. After that there are crops like rape grown especially for the stock to feed on during the summer months (Picture 17)."

Lucy Orbell

"The main difference between summer and winter care is the feeding out of hay, oats, cattle cubes, and sheep and lamb pellets daily in the winter and early spring months. Lately we have harvested up to 100,000 bales of hay."

Colin Kelly

"Several years ago our cattle were Hereford cross. Now we have only Aberdeen Angus cattle."

Lucy Orbell

THINGS TO DO

Look for the marbled beef at your market. Compare its price with the prices of other kinds of beef and other meats.

DISCUSS:

- Why Mr. Kelly changed the breed of cattle.
- Why he keeps the best bulls and the best cows to be the parents of next year's calves. What he does with the others. Why he also buys cattle.
- What they chose to sow for fodder at Barwidgee, and why they chose those plants.
- Why there are no cow-stables or milking machines on Barwidgee.
- What we in Canada would call the stockman shown in pictures 51 and 81.



16

Aberdeen Angus, a breed of black, hornless beef cattle first bred in Scotland in the counties of Aberdeen and Angus. They have thick bodies, short legs, and stumpy necks. The fat *marbles*, mixing with the lean meat in streaks. Butchers look for this in the best and most expensive beef.

Cattle need their vitamins too!



18

17





"Picture 20 was taken in March, 1969, of our newest mower cutting early hay, with Colin in the background. Picture 19 shows 15,000 bales of hay stacked partly under cover."

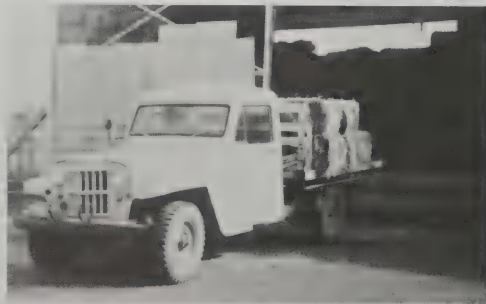
Andrew Edgley

"Today I worked with two others feeding hay off the back of a truck. We break up the bales and toss them on the ground for the cattle to eat."

James Hay

DISCUSS:

- Why they mow and bale hay—why they do not just let the cattle and sheep into one paddock after another to eat the hay.
- When the baled hay is used (see picture 16).
- When the stock will need more water—when they are feeding on green pasture or feeding on hay. Why?
- How cattle use their tongues to get a mouthful of grass or hay, and how sheep crop the grass with their lips and teeth. What difference does this make when the stockmen on Barwidgee move the stock from one paddock to another?
- Why some baled hay is kept under cover at Barwidgee.
- Types of winter feed for livestock in Canada, and how it is stored.



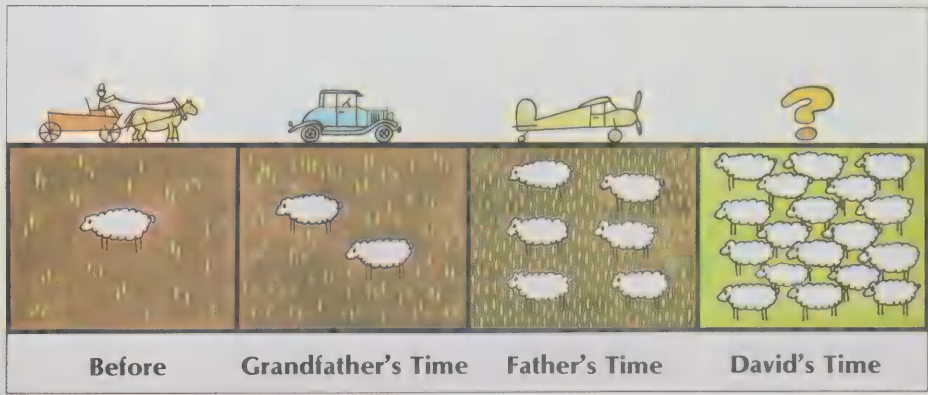
Increasing the Land

Greg wrote to Mr. Kelly to ask if his land improvement plan had worked. Mr. Kelly answered:

"In Australia, we tell how good our land is by telling the number of sheep we can feed on one acre of land. Before my family bought Barwidgee, one acre of land would feed only one sheep. Here is a chart to show how our plan worked. Each square stands for one acre of land. As time passed, we could feed more and more sheep on one acre. To find out how many cows we can feed, just remember that one cow eats as much grass as 8 sheep.

At the moment (1966), I am running about 4 sheep per acre after a hot, dry and difficult season. If we get more rain, I hope to run next year at 5 sheep per acre. When I see how well our plan has worked, I begin to wonder how many sheep will be able to feed on one acre when David is old enough to run the farm."

22



Improving the Flock

"In the 1870's, by crossing the Merino sheep with the Lincoln and other strains, there was bred the celebrated New Zealand Corriedale, a sheep yielding both wool and excellent meat."

Australia and New Zealand



Lincoln ewe

DISCUSS:

- Mr. Kelly wrote, "All our sheep are now Corriedales." Why?
- How the health of livestock is protected.
- Why so many graziers come to sales. (The animals sold there are not bought for meat. See also picture 47.)
- How Barwidgee winters are different from ours. (Picture 23 was taken in mid-winter in a rye grass paddock. Pictures 8, 42, and 92 were taken at about the same time. What might you like and not like about their winters?)
- Why animals are branded. How sheep are marked. (See picture 55.)

(23)



"Lisa, Anne, and David with a 2½ year-old Corriedale ewe carrying 5 months' wool. It is midwinter, August, 1969." Andrew Edgley

Why do People Want Wool?

"Wool will stand an amazing amount of wear, yet is light in weight. It is also surprisingly warm. Because it is so kinky and elastic, wool is spongy and full of little pockets of air. That is why a coat or blanket made of wool protects the body from both heat and cold.

Water runs off wool well. When wool does get wet, it doesn't feel cold and clammy, like cotton."

Foods and Textiles I

"Barwidgee animals are killed in the Warrnambool Abatoirs for our own use. We kill seven sheep a week to supply our own needs. This meat is stored in our own walk-in cool room (see picture 26). We also keep sheep vaccines and antibiotics there."

Andrew Edgley

"Picture 25 shows David in the woolshed playing with a kelpie sheep dog. Behind him is our wool press."

Andrew Edgley



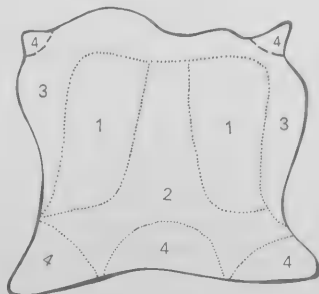
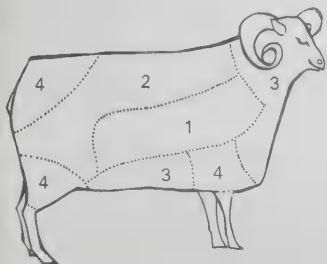
(24)



(25)



(26)



The number 1 is the best wool. A fine fleece provides enough wool to make suits for five or six men. How many men's suits could be made from one wool clip of Barwidgee's 16,000 sheep?

THINGS TO DO

- Untwist a piece of woollen yarn. Get the longest single hair. Do the same with a piece of cotton thread, silk thread, and a thread from an old nylon stocking. How are they alike? How are they different? What is each one especially good for?
- Get a small piece of woollen cloth. Crumple it in your hand to see how spongy it is. What happens when you open your hand? Why? Take it apart to see how it is made from wool hairs.
- Visit a sheep farm, a woollen mill, a knitting mill.



(27)



(28)

“Shearing. Wool is sheared from the sheep in one piece, called a *fleece*. *Lamb’s wool*, from lambs six to eight months old, is very soft and fine, but not as strong as the wool from older sheep. The first fleece taken from a sheep at the age of twelve to fourteen months is the best fleece. Fleece clipped after that contains more dirt. The shearing life of a sheep is five years, after which it is fattened and sold for meat.

Without their coat of wool, sheep are very delicate animals and require great care, especially when the weather is hot, cold, or damp. This is one reason why wool is expensive.”

Foods and Textiles I

DISCUSS:

- The wool you see in pictures 23, 27, and 55.
- Woollen things you use. When and how you use them. (Which were knitted? Which were woven? What is the difference?)
- Why both summer and winter baby’s clothes are often made of wool.
- How sheep are looked after at Barwid-gee.
- Which part of the animal provides the best meat.
- Sheep dogs.
- “Don’t play marbles with those guys,” said Peter, “or you’ll get fleeced!”

Shorn flock at Lethbridge, Alberta

ANIMAL CARE

GENERAL WORK

Sept. Lambs marked
Oct. Fat lambs sold
Nov. Main sheep shearing - then sheep dipped
Dec.
Jan. Sheep sales at Caramut
Feb. Veterinary doctor visits Barwidgee
Mar.
Apr. Weaner lambs are shorn
May
June Crutching of full-grown sheep
July
Aug. Lambs are born. Sheep drenched. Weaners crutched

Cattle sales at Caramut. Calves weaned
Veterinary doctor visits Barwidgee. Cattle weighed to check gain
Bull sale at Barwidgee. Calves born and branded
Cattle drenched (given medicine). Calves born and branded
Calves weighed and sorted into mobs
Calves weighed and sorted into mobs

Fencing. Plough, harrow, and remove stones
Cultivate. Spray thistles
Cut hay. Cut thistles
Stack hay. Cut thistles. Check windmills. Start firebreak
Burn firebreaks. Check water troughs and windmills. Cut thistles
Check troughs and windmills
Spread fertilizer. Feed out hay.
Horse show at Mortlake — entire family competes
Feed out hay
Remove stones. Feed out hay
Feed out hay. Spray weeds
Feed out hay. Fencing. Repair fences and machines. Sowing
Feed out hay. Clean woolshed.
Ploughing and harrowing

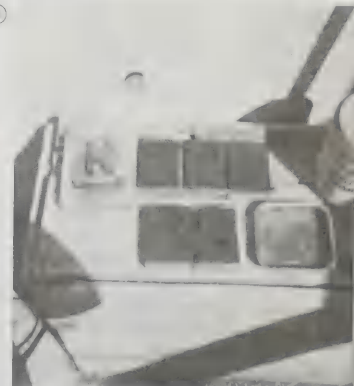


29

30



31



- 29 — A cattle sale by auction.
30 — A station hand ploughing and harrowing with a tractor.
31 — Cold (ink) branding iron.
32 — Animals are enclosed in the tank and spray dipped to kill lice.
33 — Spray dipped cattle, four months' old.

32



33



- Are these things done in Canada? How? Where? When? Why?
- Use the chart to explain how it is possible for Mr. Kelly to keep large numbers of both sheep and cattle.
- During which months do cattle need a great deal of attention?



The woolshed in 1969



Barwidgee, Then and Now

"Picture 34 is a 50 year-old photograph of the Barwidgee woolshed and a large shearing crew, along with the owner, his overseers, and the wool classers. We believe the man by the water pump to be the cook — the man of importance to the crew.

Picture 36 shows the oldest building on Barwidgee — the Menzies Hut. It was named after a prominent Melbourne hotel. It is built of hand-sawn planks from trees cut on the property."

Andrew Edgley

34

Study the pictures on this page and pictures 73 and 75.

DISCUSS:

- Why the woolshed and the Menzies Hut have been preserved.
- What makes the woolshed so durable.
- What old buildings in your town should be preserved. Why?
- Historical sites in your area, and how they are marked. Why is each one important?
- How the new metal roof on the woolshed helps to ensure a supply of fresh water.

35

36



Mechanization

"At the machinery shed, which we call 'Mecca' (picture 38), there are 2 trucks, 3 Land Rovers, a D4 Caterpillar tractor (see picture 14), 2 John Deere '730' tractors, 5 smaller Massey-Ferguson tractors, and many pieces of machinery that the tractors pull. The first tractor for Barwidgee was bought in 1936."

C. R. Kelly

Collect advertising pamphlets of John Deere, Massey-Ferguson, and Land Rovers. Note the attachments, and list all the jobs they can do.

DISCUSS:

- The story told by each set of pictures on this page. (You may like to compare the old and the new under these headings: Time to do the job; Effort needed to do the job; Number of people needed; Care of equipment; Reasons for changing.)
- The advantages of shearing with electric shears.
- Work that has been mechanized in your home, in your town, and on the farm, since Grandma and Grandpa were kids.
- Other ways, not mentioned on this page, in which work at Barwidgee has been mechanized.

Mecca, the city in Arabia where Mohammed was born, to which many Moslems go as often as they can.

me chan ic (mə kan'ik), a worker skilled with tools, especially one who repairs machines.

mech a nize (mek'ə nīz'), 1. do by machinery, rather than by hand: *Much housework can be mechanized.* 2. replace men or animals by machinery.

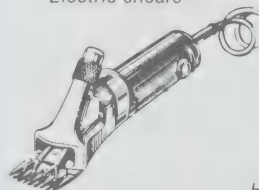


37



38

Electric shears



Hand power shears



39

40

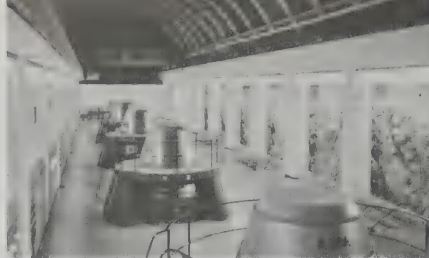


41





42



43



44

Arc welder repairs part of the D4 Caterpillar

Power for Mechanization

“Barwidgee’s electricity comes by power lines (picture 42) from the Snowy Mountains generators (picture 43) 200 miles to the northeast.

Lubricating oil, diesel oil and gasoline are delivered to Barwidgee by truck. Picture 46 shows an employee dipping the 1000 gallon underground gasoline storage tank. Note the 1000 gallon overhead diesel oil tank, the electric petrol bowser, and the empty lubricating oil drum.”

Andrew Edgley

bowser (Australian), a pump, usually at a service station, for dispensing liquid fuels.

diesel oil, a light fuel oil burned by Diesel engines.

gen er a tor (jen’ər ā’tər), a machine that changes water power or steam power into electric power; a dynamo.

lu bri cant (lū’brə kənt), oil or grease for putting on parts of machinery that move against one another, to make them smooth and slippery so that they will work easily.

DISCUSS:

- All the pictures on this page, and elsewhere in this book, that show the use of —muscle power, both human and animal—wind power—water power—electric power—petroleum power.
- How the use of power saves time and labor at Barwidgee. In you neighborhood.
- The advantages and disadvantages of each of the five kinds of power used at Barwidgee.
- The dangers with each of these five kinds of power. (Why is the gasoline storage tank buried, while the diesel oil is stored above ground?)
- The purpose of the metal band you see on the pole in picture 42. (Mr. Edgley calls it a “possum guard.”)



45

An Australian oil refinery



46



Marketing

"Each year we sell 500 steer calves and surplus cows and heifers, as well as 5000 fat lambs and 500 bales of wool (each weighs about 300 lbs.). In 1966 their value on the local market was as given in the table below."

steers	\$97.00	weaner lambs	\$ 7.50
1 yr. heifers	82.55	weaner ewes	7.80
2 yr. heifers	147.00	sheep, 5-6 yrs.	6.30
older cows	60.00	bale of wool	117.00
cattle hides	3.20		

C. R. Kelly

DISCUSS:

- What Barwidgee produces for sale.
- How modern methods are used at Barwidgee to prevent animals from losing weight on the way to market.
- Why older cows and sheep sell for less than younger ones.
- Why Australia would choose to represent her products on stamps.



Bidding to buy stud rams. In 1960, the first-prize ram at the Sydney sheep show sold for £8,715 (\$19,173 Canadian dollars).



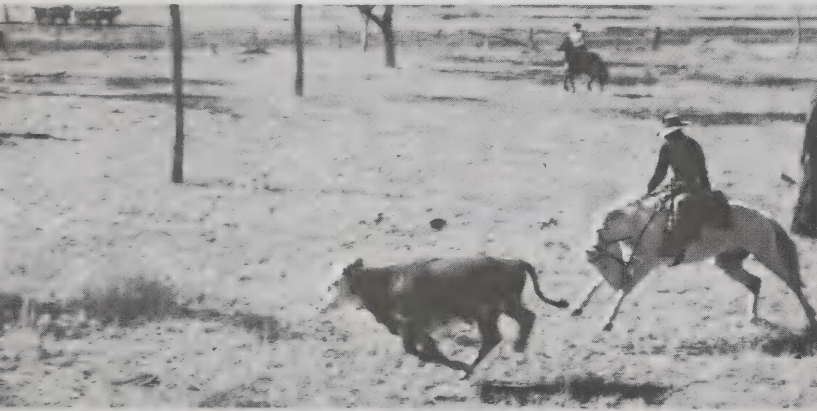
Loading bales of wool at Mortlake Railway Station



A loaded cattle truck at Barwidgee



50



51

"Before any sale of cattle the stockmen are very busy 'cutting out' the animals that are to be sent to market. It may take several days to bring the market cattle to the stockyard pens.

There they are moved into a chute which forces them into a single line. They walk up a ramp and are moved, one at a time, onto the huge cattle scales. Then a gate closes behind the animal. While it is penned on the scales its weight and brand number are recorded. A front gate is then opened, and the animal is moved ahead into the waiting truck.

Most Australian beef is used in Australia, but last year (1967-68) four million dollars worth of Australian beef went to Canada."

Lucy Orbell

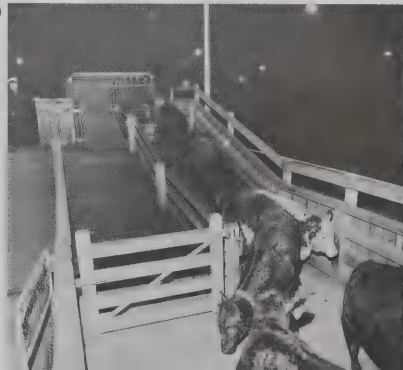
DISCUSS:

- The types of animals chosen for marketing, and why.
- How you can tell which pictures on this page were not taken at Barwidgee.
- What is done with the cattle hides.

52



53



54





36

Pat and Mabel at the Experimental Farm, Ottawa

Getting the Know-How

"My father, Charles Kelly, was a jackeroo on the Barwidgee property. A jackeroo is a young man learning about farming, especially how to graze cattle and sheep. In 1908 he talked his family into buying the property.

I am a graduate of Melbourne University in Agricultural Science."

C. R. Kelly

"At an early age, Australian farm children can learn a lot about sheep and cattle and crops. In primary school, children often study ways of farming. There are special studies they can take in high schools, colleges, and universities.

Most farm districts have Young Farmer's Clubs. In these clubs young people learn from the experts who run the government's experimental farms or teach in agricultural colleges and universities. Then they practise on their own calves, lambs, or crops, and compete for prizes at the fairs."

Adapted from the filmstrip "Sheep Sale"



"Sheepmen learn young"

35

THINGS TO DO

- Invite a member of the local 4-H Club to come and tell the class what the club members do.
- Attend a fall fair and watch the judging of the livestock.

DISCUSS:

- Ways of learning—from experience, from other people's experience, from schools and universities, from experiments. (What is good about each? What is not so good?)
- Ways in which agricultural science has been used at Barwidgee.
- Where you could go to see the best farm produce and farm animals raised in your neighborhood.
- How governments get back some of the money they spend helping farmers make more money. (Who else is better off when farmers make more money? Why? Are you? How?)
- How Mr. Kelly and Mr. Edgley keep up-to-date in agricultural science.
- Why there are fewer farmers now, but more farm produce.



57

Boarding the bus



61

Poison ball



62

Football

GOING TO SCHOOL IN CARAMUT

LISA KELLY'S DAY

- 7:00 a.m. — Get up, washed, and dressed
- 7:30 a.m. — breakfast: eggs, toast, honey, and milk
- 8:00 a.m. — make bed, tidy room, collect books
- 8:30 a.m. — ride bicycle to cattle pit at the entrance to the main homestead to catch the school bus
- 9:00 a.m. — school starts — morning talk and sums
- 10:30 a.m. — morning break for play and milk

- 10:50 a.m. — spelling and writing
- 11:45 a.m. — lunch: sandwiches, fruit, and a drink of broth
- 12:00 noon — noon hour play
- 1:00 p.m. — school starts again — history, geography, music, and science
- 3:30 p.m. — school dismissed
- 4:00 p.m. — home — riding on pony — once a week I go to Brownies in Caramut
- 5:30 p.m. — supper
- 6:30 p.m. — T.V. (plus any school work)
- 7:30 p.m. — bed



58

Leaving the bus



59

School assembly

Lunch on a bench at school



60



63

Playground at school



64

School water supply

HOW ARE SCHOOL DAYS IN CARAMUT LIKE YOURS?
WHAT ARE THE DIFFERENCES?

SCHOOL DAYS IN VICTORIA

FEBRUARY 4 TO MAY 9
First Term Holidays

MAY 20 TO AUGUST 22
Second Term Holidays

SEPTEMBER 8 TO DECEMBER 20
Christmas Holidays to February 3



Children in the school playground



Every year for the last five years the school children have planted pines in the school plantation to provide money for school extras.



Lunch on the grass



Classroom interior



Classroom interior



Classroom interior

BARWIDGEE:

In Part Self-Sufficient, In Part Dependent

Barwidgee is a community of 14 men, 13 women, and 20 children. At shearing time, add a shearing crew of 25 people.

"The orchard has fallen into disuse because of a fungus disease let go too long. The fruits grown there were apples, apricots, plums, and lemons. Most fruits grow here, but in some winters we have sharp frosts which make fruit growing risky."

Andrew Edgley

Lisa and Anne at stockyard



Anne at the cattle guard



THINGS TO DO

- Study the map and the pictures on these two pages. Find on the map where the photographer was standing when he took each picture.
- Look back at the aerial photographs on pages 3 and 4. Spot the Colin Kelly house showing through the gap in the trees.
- Study the map on page 25 and the aerial photographs on pages 3 and 4. Find and name all the buildings you can. Why doesn't the old homestead show up better in the photograph?
- Find on the map, the buildings and/or places shown in pictures 21, 36, 38, 73, 74 and 75.
- Describe, from the map and the pictures, the sports and other recreational activities that can be enjoyed right at Barwidgee.
- From the map and the pictures, list 10 to 20 small jobs, not directly connected with cattle and sheep, that must be done at Barwidgee.
- Find what Australian fruits are for sale here. Make a display of labels.

DISCUSS:

- How Barwidgee is like a small town.
- How it has changed in sixty years.
- What has not been changed much (see picture 34).
- The purposes served by the trees, hedges, and flower beds.
- Why cattle guards ("cattle potts") are used instead of gates. (Why won't sheep and cattle walk across them?)
- How and why the Colin Kelly house differs from the old homestead.



The Colin Kelly house, 1956



Stockyards. In the background, LEFT haystacked; RIGHT "Mecca" (see also picture 38).

The old homestead, about 1909



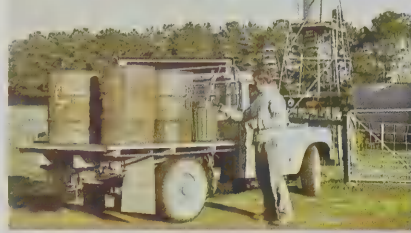


Post Office in Caramut



Secretary at the mail box

self-suf fi cient (self'sə fish'ənt),
not needing help; being independent.



Station hand with truck load of garbage cans



Find this burning garbage dump in picture 8.



Single men at dinner



Barwidgee stockman cracking a whip

HOW IS BARWIDGEE SELF-SUFFICIENT? HOW IS IT NOT?

THINGS TO DO

Study the evidence on pages 26, 27, 28, and 29 as a unit, to discuss these questions. Use also pictures 11, 13, 15, 26, 27, 43, 44, 45, 46, 49, and the maps on pages 5 and 25.

Post Offices

"The first mails to this district were carried by 'Flash Jack,' who brought them from Port Fairy by pack-horse. This mail was sorted at Caramut House, and even Penshurst people had to come there for their mail. 'Flash Jack' was well known for miles around as a wonderful horseman and whipcracker."

History of Caramut





Sea front at Warrnambool



Shopping centre at Warrnambool



Children in candy store at Caramut



Fruit and vegetable section of supermarket at Warrnambool

Church at Caramut



Mortlake District Hospital



Mortlake main street



Hall's Gap — Grampians



HOW IS BARWIDGEE CO-OPERATIVE?

"Here are some pictures of Barwidgee's fire truck. In the summer there is always a danger of fire because the tall pasture grasses are so dry. All the property owners and farm hands belong to the Caramut Fire Brigade. Each property must own a fire truck. Our truck has two big water tanks and a pump on the back. Mr. Edgley, the manager, is showing how it works. It is always ready to take off in case a fire starts anywhere near here.

Sometimes the Fire Brigade starts a fire on purpose! The men burn firebreaks along each side of the road and around the town. Most fires around here are grass fires. It is hard to believe how fast they move and how loud they sound. The firebreaks help stop them before they spread too far but the men must move in quickly with the water to be certain they are out."

Lucy Orbell

co-op er a tive (kō op'ər ə tiv or kō op'ər ā'tiv),
willing to work together with others; helpful.

fire break (fir'brāk'), a strip of land that has been
cleared of trees, or on which the sod has been turned
over, or burned off to prevent the spreading of a forest
or a grass fire.



CHECK LIST OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

Which does Barwidgee have for itself?
Where does it get the others?
Why doesn't Barwidgee have them?

- | | |
|--------------------|----------------------|
| • airport | • hotel |
| • ambulance | • jail |
| • bank | • laundry |
| • bakery | • library |
| • bus station | • mayor |
| • church | • newspaper |
| • cleaner | • park |
| • clothing stores | • playgrounds |
| • council | • police station |
| • dairy | • post office |
| • dentist | • restaurant |
| • doctor | • roads |
| • electricity | • schools |
| • fairgrounds | • service station |
| • fire brigade | • sewers |
| • fire hydrants | • sidewalks |
| • fish market | • sports field |
| • florist | • telephone exchange |
| • fruit store | • tennis courts |
| • garage (repairs) | • theatre |
| • garbagemen | • town hall |
| • grocery store | • vegetable market |
| • hardware store | • veterinarian |
| • hospital | • water service |

Which of these services are offered by your
community? Where does your community get the
others?

More Useful Quotations

"There used to be a lock-up in Caramut, but now the nearest police station is at Penshurst. Constable Basham says most of his cases are highway traffic offenses."

"Wages and salaries are paid by our bank (E.S. & A., Mortlake), into the employees' bank accounts. The little branch bank in the Caramut Post Office is only open one half day a week."

"As there is no municipal water supply in our district, everybody collects rain water from the roofs into storage tanks."

"A small but active fishing fleet operates out of Warrnambool. They catch shark, barracoota and crayfish. The main fishing fleet is at Port Fairy."

"A nine-wire telephone cable runs underground to Barwidgee from the exchange in Caramut. Each resident has a private telephone and there are extensions to the woolshed and the machinery shed. We rely heavily on the telephone for our needs."

"Our milk we bring in large cans from the dairying area near Warrnambool and keep it in the cool room with the meat. We deliver it to each home twice a week."

"One of our station hands collects Barwidgee garbage and takes it to the dump. It is burned from time to time and the ashes buried."

"We do not often use the railway. Mortlake is at the end of the branch line, with only one train a week. When we have livestock on the truck, it is cheaper to truck them all the way to the markets."

"The nearest doctors to Barwidgee are in Penshurst and Mortlake. Consultations can be made over the phone, or in an emergency the sick person has to be taken to the doctors."

DISCUSS:

- How Barwidgee is like your community. How it is different.
- What you would like and what you would not like if you lived at Barwidgee.
- What would happen in your town (and in Warrnambool) if you burned your garbage in your back yard every week. (Why are the ashes buried? In what months will the burning of garbage need to be carefully supervised? Why?)

- Picture 83 was taken in July. What season is it? How far south of Barwidgee is Warrnambool? In what ways will Warrnambool's weather be different from Barwidgee's weather? From your town's weather? How do you know?
- Which is the largest town—Caramut, Mortlake, or Warrnambool? How do you know? Why do you think Caramut now has fewer people and businesses than it had sixty years ago? Why do you think Warrnambool has kept on growing?
- Compare the things for sale in picture 84 with those on sale in your markets. When the picture was taken in July, 1969, the Australian dollar was worth \$1.20 Canadian. Their ten cents would be worth how many Canadian cents? And their twenty-five cents?



Recreation

Dear Greg:

We have three ponies. One is 7, two are 3. We feed them on horse feed. I have never fed a baby lamb. I have sometimes watched Larky feed the bulls. The ponies' names are Tony, 3, Tammie, 3, Punch, 7. Happy our dog is a children's dog.

Love from Lisa

Dear Lisa:

I wish I had a pony. My dog is black and white. His name is Wag.

What do you do on Christmas? We have a big tree with lights. Dad said it is warm on Christmas day in Australia. We have snow here. Could you go swimming on Christmas day? I like to swim.

Greg



DISCUSS:

- What recreation is, and what it is good for.
- Why it is easier for the Kellys to have ponies than for Greg.
- Play at Caramut school, and at yours. (See pages 22 and 23.)
- Recreation at Barwidgee. (See pages 22, 25.)
- Fun in the Grampians. (How would the Kellys get there? See page 27.)
- Christmas, in Australia and in your neighborhood.
- The pains and pleasures of keeping pets.
- Why mountains, woods, streams, and beaches make good recreation places. (How are they spoiled?)
- Canadian stamps that show our wild life.

Trillium — floral emblem of the province of Ontario

Pink heath — floral emblem of the state of Victoria

"Australia has many animals and plants that are not found on any other continent. The most different animals are the marsupials—kangaroo, wallaby, koala, and platypus—they carry their young ones in pouches. No hoofed animals are native to Australia, nor any predatory animals like wolves, lions, or tigers, except the dingo—a little wild dog."

adapted from Australia Handbook, 1968

Dear Greg:

I would like you to see the Grampians which are very beautiful! We sometimes climb Mt. William; you get a good view of the other mountains and hills.

We sometimes see Koalas, Kangaroos, Kookaburras, and Wallabys.

Susan

Dear Susan:

Someday I hope you can visit Ancaster. My favorite place is Spring Valley Park. We have picnics there and I explore. There is a little stream and I saw racoon tracks the other day.

Dad always takes people to the top of Hamilton mountain. It's not a real mountain but you can see the whole city. At night it looks like a big Christmas decoration.

Greg



View of the Grampians
from the summit of Mt. William

96



Zumsteins picnic reserve,
14 miles from Hall's Gap

96



David, with the tame magpie which he and the girls treated when it fell out of its nest and injured itself. It has since learned to bark like a watchdog and laugh and call out like the children.

100



96



97



Summing Up

How have the people at Barwidgee improved their land and earned a better living?

- Find evidence throughout this study that the people at Barwidgee are taking advantage of:
 - Modern equipment in the operation of the station.
 - Modern land management ideas to produce better pasture and crops.
 - Modern stock management ideas to improve meat and wool production.
- In this study you have met with such words as: education, mechanization, conservation, recreation. What has each of these words, and the meanings given on this page, to do with the business of running Barwidgee? Find something in this book to support what you say. For example, you have read on page 29 how the *salaries* of Barwidgee's employees are paid to them.
- List all the sources of Barwidgee's *income*.
- List all Barwidgee's *expenses*.
- What could happen to make Barwidgee lose money instead of making a *profit*? What do you think they do to prevent or meet this danger?
- Why are small farms disappearing nowadays, and big farms taking their places?
- What good has all this done for:
 - the owners? — the employees? — the children?
 - people in other parts of Victoria? Australia?
 - the World?
- Has it caused any problems?

cap i tal (kap'ə təl), the amount of money or property for use in a business: *A great deal of capital is needed to set up a big ranch.*

ex pense (eks pens'), 1. the cost; the charge: *Our expenses include food, rent, clothing, and recreation.* 2. a cause of spending: *Running an automobile is an expense.* 3. the paying out of money: *A boy at college puts his father to considerable expense.*

in come (in'kum), what comes in from property, business, labor, etc.; money that comes in: *The grocer's store brings in an income of \$25,000 a year.*

in vest (in vest'), use money to buy something that is expected to produce a profit or an income or both: *If I had any money to invest, I would invest it in land and machinery.*

la bor or la bour (lā'bər), work; toil: *He was well paid for his labor. He labored all day repairing fences.*

prof it (prof'it), the gain from a business; what is left when the cost of goods and of carrying on the business is subtracted from the amount of money taken in: *The profits on a small farm are not large.*

sal a ry (sal'ə rē or sal'rə), fixed pay for regular work: *Managers and secretaries receive salaries.*

up keep (up'kēp'), 1. the act of keeping in good condition. 2. the cost of operating and repair: *The upkeep of an airplane is expensive.*

wage (wāj), an amount paid for work: *His wages are \$30.00 a week.*



Glossary

ab at toir (ab'ə twär or ab'ə twär'), a slaughterhouse, where cattle, pigs, sheep, etc. are killed and prepared for marketing.

an ti bi ot ic (an'tē bī ot'ik), a substance, produced by living things, used to destroy or weaken harmful germs: *Penicillin is an antibiotic.*

caterpillar tractor, a tractor that can travel over rough land on wheels that run inside two endless belts of linked, steel plates.

cattle guard, a shallow ditch across which rails are laid far enough apart to keep cattle from crossing, used instead of a gate.

con ser va tion (kon'sər vā'shən), protection from loss or being used up; prevention of waste: *The conservation of forests is very important.*

crop (krop), 1. a product grown or gathered by people for their use: *Wheat is the main crop of the Prairie Provinces.* 2. cut or bite off the top of: *Sheep crop the rape heads.*

crutch (kruch), clip off the matted wool between a sheep's hind legs.

cul ti vate (kul'tə vāt'), 1. prepare and use land to raise crops by ploughing it, planting seeds, and taking care of the growing plants. 2. loosen the ground around growing plants to kill weeds, etc.

fer ti lize (fēr'tə līz'), make soil more productive by adding manure or some other fertilizer: *Many farmers fertilize their land every year.*

fod der (fod'ər), coarse food for horses, cattle, etc.: *Hay and cornstalks are fodder.*

graze (grāz), 1. feed on growing grass: *Cattle were grazing in the field.* 2. put cattle, sheep, etc. to feed on growing grass or a pasture.

gra zier (grā' zhər), 1. a person who grazes cattle for market. 2. the owner of a grazing property.

mar su pi al (mār sü'pē əl), an animal that carries its young in a pouch: *Kangaroos and opossums are marsupials.*

pad dock (pad'ək), a fenced field used as a pasture.

pel let (pel'it), a little ball of mud, paper, hail, snow, food, medicine, etc.; a pill.

phos phate (fos'fāt), 1. a salt containing phosphorous. 2. a fertilizer containing such salts.

pred a to ry (pred'ə tō'rē), preying upon other animals: *Lions and tigers are predatory animals; hawks and owls are predatory birds.*

pre serve (pri zerv'), 1. keep from harm or change; keep safe; protect. 2. keep up; maintain. 3. keep from spoiling: *Ice helps to preserve food.* 4. a place where wild animals or fish are protected: *People are not allowed to hunt on the preserves.*

rape (rāp), a small plant whose leaves are used as food for sheep or pigs and whose seeds are used to produce an oil: *A great deal of rape is grown on the Prairies.*

rye grass (rī'gras'), a grass much used in Australia on poor or dry lands for hay and cover.

stock yard (stok'yärd'), a place with pens and sheds for cattle, sheep, hogs, and horses: *Livestock is kept in a stockyard before being slaughtered or sent to market.*

stud groom (stud'grüm'), a man who looks after a stallion, bull, or ram kept for breeding purposes.

vac cine (vak'sēn or vak sēn'), a preparation of germs of a disease given to people or to animals to protect them against that disease: *There is a vaccine for polio.*

wal la by (wol'ə bē), any of various small kangaroos, some of which are no bigger than a rabbit.

wean (wēn), get a child or young animal used to taking food other than its mother's milk.

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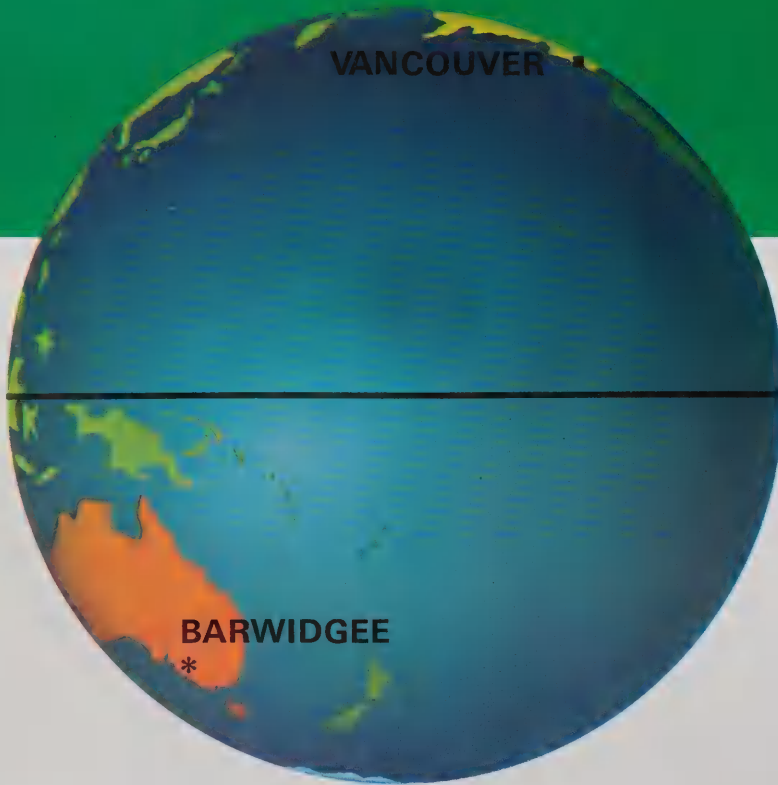
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Definitions throughout this book are based on those in *The Beginning Dictionary*, W. J. Gage Limited, Toronto, 1962, and *The Intermediate Dictionary*, W. J. Gage Limited, Toronto, 1963.



Christmas in Canada

National Film Board

Christmas in Australia

Australian News and Information





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